VANM247.001APC

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Gerdes et al.

Appl. No.

09/700,130

Filed

: December 18, 2001

For

: CYTOTOXIN-BASED

BIOLOGICAL CONTAINMENT

Examiner

: Patricia Ann Duffy

Group Art Unit : 1645

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendment before examination of the application of the merits.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.